

# Broken ground



## Work on health and wellness resort begins

By Matt Heilman

Construction is finally set to begin on a project that has been six years in the making. Joined by Bel Aire city leaders, business partners, investors and friends, developer Terrie Grillo finally had her chance to pop a bottle of champagne.

The cause for celebration was a May 31 groundbreaking ceremony for Tierra Verde, a planned health and wellness destination resort near 47th North and Webb Road.

Fellow developer and Tierra Verde architect Paul Cavanaugh said construction on the development's first of three phases is expected to start soon and will be completed in nine to 10 months.

The first phase is construction of a medical facility that will house the Concierge Surgical Recovery Center and the new clinic home for Dr. George Watson. Watson, who currently operates his clinic near 61st North and Broadway in Park City, works on a patient direct model that allows him to contract directly with patients without having to go through insurance companies. Watson has worked with the patient-direct model for 10 years.

"Many people, because insurance policies force them out of the hospital early, end up staying in a hotel," Watson said. "And when they come (to the Concierge Surgical Recovery Center), instead of calling the front desk and talking to a hotel clerk, they'll talk to a (registered nurse)."

Tierra Verde's Phase 1 plans call for the surgical recovery center to be on the main floor as patients and visitors enter the development off Webb Road. Watson's office will be on a lower level walkout that will lead into a courtyard.

The surgical recovery center will include eight hypobaric chambers, which will help patients accelerate their recovery, Watson said.

He said the chambers are 72-inch round, steel tanks in which patients enter through a portal and sit under oxygen hoods as the tanks are pressurized.

"That is incredibly good for helping people after surgeries," Watson said.

The use of the hypobaric chambers is one of the key components marketed in the development's first phase.

Grillo said Tierra Verde's second phase would be



Grillo



Watson



Photos by Matt Heilman

**ABOVE: The final plat for Tierra Verde was on display at the May 31 groundbreaking. The plat consists of three phases that will complete the development as a health and wellness destination. TOP: Taking part in the May 31 groundbreaking for Tierra Verde are (from left) Dr. George Watson, Bel Aire City Council member Peggy O'Donnell, Dwight Ray with Community National Bank, investor John Eck, developer Terrie Grillo and developer and architect Paul Cavanaugh.**



Courtesy photo

**Bill Cosby, who performed at the Orpheum in Wichita June 21, shows the pizza he got from Bob and Luigi's in Bel Aire.**

## Comedic legend treated to local pizza

By Matt Heilman

Bill Cosby has a taste for more than Jello pudding.

The comedic legend was hungry for pizza. And he wasn't interested in putting in an order for a dish from a large chain restaurant that he could eat anywhere in the country.

Cosby wanted a pizza experience from somewhere he'd never eaten before.

He was treated to a pizza from Bob and

See COSBY, Page 2

## Fireworks rules vary across the county

By The Breeze staff

It's almost that time of the year, when colorful tents start popping up in area cities and Fourth of July revelers get ready for the multi-day party.

The rules for purchase and discharge of fireworks vary by city. This year, the sale and discharge of so-called sky lanterns is not allowed in cities in north Sedgwick County. Last year, sky lanterns were to blame for a large field fire on Valley Center's west side.

Bel Aire has the tightest restrictions on fireworks in the area. They were to be on sale from June 27 through July 4. However, discharge in the city is allowed only from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. July 4. There

See FIREWORKS, Page 2

## City approves land sale in Sunflower Commerce Park

By Matt Heilman

A second tenant appears to be on its way to Bel Aire's industrial park known as the Sunflower Commerce Park. At its June 4 meeting, the Bel Aire City Council approved a real estate purchase agreement with JDC Property Group LLC to buy two lots and a portion of a third, totaling about 21 acres at \$22,500 per acre.

Bel Aire City Manager Ty Lasher said the group hasn't revealed the identity of the business

planning to build on the acreage, but at the June 4 meeting, he said the likely future tenant is a "world-wide distribution business."

The Sunflower Commerce Park's first and only tenant so far is Century Manufacturing, a company that specializes in making plastic and acrylic promotional materials. Century Manufacturing has 30 employees working in its 36,000-square-foot facility on three acres near 53rd North and Webb Road.

The Sunflower Commerce Park

includes about 800 acres, stretched along 53rd North from Webb to Greenwich roads.

The real estate purchase agreement approved June 4 takes the first step for a new business to join Century Manufacturing in Phase 1 of the park.

The master plan for the industrial park calls for 155 acres in the first phase to be shovel-ready, meaning infrastructure is in place ahead of development plans so construction can begin almost immediately when a business com-

mits to building on the property.

The council also took action on the residential development front at its June 4 meeting by approving a builder's incentive agreement for 10 lots in the Central Park Fourth Addition, located between City Hall and the Catholic Care Center, northwest of 45th North and Rock Road.

Plans in the Central Park Fourth Addition include the construction of single-family homes and duplex-style homes referred to as "twin homes."

# Cities opt for temporary gun ban

Councils seek more time under new state legislation

By Matt Heilman

In a complicated time when security is tight and trust in strangers is perhaps at an all-time low, the matter of gun control is a hot-button issue that ruffles the feathers on both sides of the aisle in American politics.

At the local level, most city leaders seem to agree on one thing when it comes to gun control measures: the general public shouldn't carry firearms into municipal courtrooms.

In March, Kansas legislators passed the Personal and Family Protection Act that has required

local municipalities to at least take note of how it may affect them.

The law goes into effect July 1, not giving cities much time to respond.

In recent meetings, the Valley Center, Park City, Bel Aire and Kechi city councils addressed a

section of the law that says, "The carrying of a concealed handgun as authorized by the Personal and Family Protection Act shall not be prohibited in any state or municipal building unless such building has adequate security measures to ensure that no weapons are permitted to be carried

into such building ..."

Simply put, the law says that if you have a concealed carry license, you can carry your gun out of sight into any public building that doesn't have adequate security at its entrance.

See FIREARMS, Page 5





Mayor's corner

By David Austin

Economic development and community development go hand-in-hand. A few years ago, an Economic Development Advisory Board was created to help come up with ideas to sell the vacant land owned by the City of Bel Aire. I was excited to be invited, nearly seven years ago, to serve on that committee by then Mayor Harold Smith and confirmed by the city council. And thus began my involvement in Bel Aire politics.

That committee became the Community Development Advisory Committee after the city council approved the change at its last meeting June 18. The council also increased the number of people who can serve on this committee to 12. This committee will be overseen by our new community development specialist Rick Rekoske. He will continue to look at marketing opportunities, grant opportunities, sales possibilities and more.

The Community Development Advisory Committee represents a variety of people, families and interests. And we want input from you, too.

This is your city and your city government.

Do we bring back Bel Aire Days? What should we add to our list of events? What do you want to see in Bel Aire for you, your family and friends, but also to attract visitors and hopefully potential new residents?

I am asking the new committee to consider events and possibilities like a pumpkin patch in the fall, community fireworks display, kite festival, BBQ contest, community garden, farmers' market, etc. Events like these can and will promote our city and give additional opportunities for fun activities.

We are also going to look at adding new signage welcoming people to the Bel Aire city limits, so visitors know they have left Wichita and entered our great community. But, like our city seal and current sign says "With respect for its past," the current seals will be moved to our parks and the new signs will by no means replace the current seal.

My hope is these new signs will reflect a modern community telling all we are open for business and truly differentiate our boundaries.

This, too, needs citizen input.

So, let us know. Contact your Bel Aire government through the website [www.belaireks.gov](http://www.belaireks.gov).

I look forward to showing off our great community and seeing you at a future event.

# Life is too short to dread the work week

Ferris Bueller said it best: "Life moves pretty fast sometimes. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

Lately, I've fallen into a trap where I've been living week-end-to-weekend. I still enjoy my job and I don't feel overly stressed or worn out during most weeks.

But that two-day break at the finish line of every five-day race is a welcome breath of fresh air. It's that way for most Americans with a full-time job.

Weekends are great. It's a time we get to spend with family and friends. It's time to soak up some sun, be a couch potato or spruce up your yard.

Weekends are second only

## Heil on life

By Matt Heilman

to holidays. And what makes them so great? We don't have to work. It's nice not having to wake up early and commit your time to a boss, but I think it's time we learned to take on the work week with less disdain.

The average man lives to be about 75 years old and most men only have about a decade to enjoy retirement. Ultimately, it'd be nice to cash in on a lottery victory, a get-rich quick

scheme that actually works or a large inheritance and not have to punch the clock every day.

But instead of imagining how nice it would be if every day was like a weekend, let's take a stand to make the best of the situation most of us are in. Instead of starting every Monday with a countdown to Friday, try implementing welcome breaks in your week to keep from running on auto pilot and letting the world pass you by.

Maybe you can do something special for lunch every day. Meatball sub Monday and Taco Tuesday can carry you through the start of the week and send you well on your way to the downhill slide to the two-

day break.

Some of the best primetime television is on during weekday evenings, which makes the points between weekends more bearable, but I think our limited free time during the week could be better served in good company.

For me, I've found that meeting with my church small group on Monday nights and weekly dinner and a movie with my girlfriend on Wednesdays have proven to be sources of relaxation during the week.

I also have found that occasionally taking a few minutes during the day to step out and breathe some fresh air outside the office has proven to be just enough of a battery charge to

keep up morale.

Everybody's workin' for the weekend. But life's too short to be a slave to the grind in the space between the cookouts and tee times.

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## The Bel Aire Breeze

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# Rec center sees increased participation

By Matt Heilman

More than 300 area youth participated on 25 teams ranging from the T-ball to completeive, Wichita Heights League level at the Bel Aire Rec Center this summer.

Bel Aire Rec Center Program Supervisor Drew Conwell said the largest participation was in T-ball, in large part due to the presence of Isely Traditional Magnet Elementary in the city.

"T-ball numbers are through the roof now," Conwell said.

The Bel Aire rec program allows for athletes to develop from the age of 3 to the high school level, Conwell said. Three-year-olds can start participating in the program with short sports, where they learn about different sports and start exercises and practice hand-eye coordination. Blast ball is available to four-year-olds. In blast ball, children play a game that introduces them to T-ball. In blast ball, there is one base with a horn in it that sounds when runners step on the base.

After blast ball, participants in Bel Aire's Rec program move on to T-ball, followed by machine pitch. When athletes reach the point where they face live pitchers, they have the option to play more competitively against teams from other communities in the Wichita Heights League.

Conwell said the Bel Aire Rec Center has been able to grow with volunteer efforts and community and parental support. This summer, the Bel Aire Lions Club's scholarship program was able to pay for five children to participate on teams in Bel Aire's rec center league.



Matt Heilman

**A machine pitch baseball coach in the Bel Aire rec league encourages his team between innings during a June 20 game. The Bel Aire Rec Center had about 300 participants play on 25 teams this summer.**

The Lions Club also sold snow cones on game nights in Bel Aire with all the proceeds pledged to help pay for community projects.

While the Bel Aire Rec Center's

youth sports program is designed to help young athletes develop their skills as they grow and be ready for the high school level, Conwell said the program's top priority is for participants to learn the

value of sportsmanship and to have fun playing in games.

"Our philosophy is sportsmanship and fundamentals in a fun, safe environment," Conwell said.

# Bel Aire Bandits play well at El Dorado tournament



**The U-14 Bel Aire Bandits celebrate championship trophy winning the title in the June 8 and 9 El Dorado Drillers Invitational. The Bandits won the June 9 championship.**

By The Breeze staff

The Bel Aire Bandits U-14 team won the championship at the June 8 and 9 El Dorado Drillers Invitational.

The Bandits beat the Kingman River Dawgs in the championship game, 6-5. Matthew Antoine sealed the title with a walk off homerun over the centerfield fence. Blake Carroll pitched six strong innings for the Bandits in the championship, backed by a solid defense that turned a rare triple play with the bases loaded with River Dawgs and nobody out in the third inning. The Bandits overcame a 3-2 loss to Kingman in

bracket play June 8 to earn their shot at a rematch.

"This is a good team," Bandits coach Bill Carroll said. "We have focused on keeping the ball in front of us. Everyone on the team contributed (in the tournament) by playing good defense and producing timely base hits. It has been a good season. The players keep improving each game."

The Bandits U-12 team also had a strong showing June 8 and 9, finishing second in the El Dorado Drillers Invitational. The Bandits won their first three games before losing a 10-9 heartbreaker to the Salina Sluggers in the championship.

## Resort

Continued from Page 1

construction of a second wing of the medical center that will include 14 rooms on the main level and a 2,000-square-foot spa on the lower level. A glass-walled corridor will connect Phases 1 and 2, Grillot said. The upper level of Phase 2 will include destination suites, she said.

Plans for the third phase call for a culinary school and a wine cellar, Grillot said. The development's plans also call for a recreation swimming pool and a therapy pool.

Grillot said she developed the plans for Tierra Verde six years ago because she wanted to provide a place where people have the chance "to get well before things happen" and to recover at their own pace after surgery.

She also wanted a place where patients could get well

without having to deal with insurance companies. Watson said his patient-direct cash model made him the right partner to bring a wellness center to Bel Aire.

"It was just a perfect fit," Grillot said.

Grillot had struggled to move forward with Tierra Verde before Watson became involved because doctors that had expressed interest in the project had to back out because they didn't work directly with patients on billing.

"I looked at her model and it made perfect sense because I was already doing that," Watson said of working directly with patients.

On May 31, Grillot reflected on the obstacles she's had to overcome in the past six years to see the start of Tierra Verde become a reality. She discussed the financial and personal hurdles that culminated with the ground breaking and champagne

toast.

The Bel Aire City Council cleared the way for the development's first tenant in January with the issuance of \$4.475 million in industrial revenue bonds. The move was one of the final hurdles that cleared the way for the May 31 celebration.

"I am so glad we stuck it out," Grillot said.

## Fireworks

Continued from Page 1

are two stands in the city — 4554 N. Woodlawn and 3987 N. Woodlawn Court.

Bel Aire Police Chief John Daily said citizens need to follow the city's rules and emphasized that only fireworks purchased in Bel Aire can be shot off in the city within the time allowed on July 4.

He said small children

## Cosby

Continued from Page 1

Luigi's in Bel Aire, custom made the way he liked it.

Cosby was in town to perform a June 21 show at the Wichita Orpheum Theater where Bel Aire Mayor David Austin works as the director of development.

shouldn't be left unattended around, or allowed to handle fireworks. He also said citizens need to properly dispose of spent fireworks and not leave them in the street. To reduce the risk of a fire igniting from spent fireworks, he advised pouring cool water on tubes or casings after fireworks have been detonated.

In Valley Center, sale and discharge are allowed from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. June 30 through July 3, and from 10 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. July 4.

When Cosby asked where he could get a pizza, Austin recommended Bob and Luigi's. Austin called the restaurant's owner, Eliot Green, who was on vacation in Florida.

Green took the order from Cosby and then relayed the order by phone to employees of his restaurant.

The 75-year-old comedian, actor, author, producer,

musician, teacher and activist ordered a half cheese, half pepperoni pizza made with thin, almost cracker-like crust and fresh and organic basil.

Austin and his wife, Keturah Austin, personally delivered the pizza to Cosby's hotel room. Dr. Huxtable liked what he tasted.

"Cosby thought it was fantastic," Austin said.

Park City library).

In Kechi, fireworks went on sale June 27. There is one tent in the city, outside the strip mall at 1300 E. Kechi Road. Fireworks may be discharged from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. June 27 through July 2 and 10 a.m. to midnight July 3 and 4.

In unincorporated areas of Sedgwick County, fireworks may be discharged from 6 a.m. to midnight July 1 through 4. Sky lanterns also are banned.



# City of Bel Aire City of Bel Aire



## Central Park Pool 7350 E. Central Park Ave. • 744-7331

<b>Summer Passes (Now 1/2 off)</b> Individual (ages 12 & older): \$50 Family: 2 adults and dependent children residing in the home \$75	<b>Hours (subject to change)</b> Weekdays: Swim lessons 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. Open swim 1 to 7 p.m. Weekends: 1 to 6 p.m.	<b>Group lessons</b> Members: \$35/session Non-Members: \$44/session Morning sessions: 7/8-7/19 & 7/22-8/1; 11-11:45 a.m. & 12-12:45 p.m. Evening sessions: 7/8-7/19 & 7/22-8/1; 7-7:45 p.m.
<b>Daily Fees</b> Under age 12 (must be accompanied by an adult): \$2 per day Over age 12: \$3 per day	<b>Rentals</b> Have your next party at the pool! Rental packages are available after normal business hours. Rentals are subject to availability. Up to 25 patrons: \$40/hour Over 25 patrons (limit of 50 patrons): \$60/hour	<b>Private lessons</b> Available by appointment and subject to availability.

### City of Bel Aire Consumer Confidence Report – 2013 Covering Calendar Year – 2012



This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. It is important that customers be aware of the efforts that are made continually to improve their water systems. To learn more about your drinking water, please attend any of the regularly scheduled meetings which are held: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm City Hall, 7651 E. Central Park Ave.

For more information please contact, Ty Lasher at 316-744-2451.

Our drinking water is supplied from another water system through a Consecutive Connection (CC). We purchase water from the City of Wichita and Chisholm Creek Utility Authority.

Your water is treated to remove several contaminants and a disinfectant is added to protect you against microbial contaminants. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) required states to develop a Source Water Assessment (SWA) for each public water supply that treats and distributes raw source water in order to identify potential contamination sources. The state has completed an assessment of our source water. For results of the assessment, please contact us or view on-line at: <http://www.kdheks.gov/inps/swap/SWreports.html>

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) included rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in sources water before we treat it include: **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, livestock operations and wildlife. **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming. **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users. **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity. **Organic contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulation which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and

Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system is required to test a minimum of 8 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public.

#### Water Quality Data

The following tables list all of the drinking water contaminants which were detected during the 2012 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1- December 31, 2012. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. **The bottom line is that the water that is provided to you is safe.**

#### Terms & Abbreviations

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.  
**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** the "Maximum Allowed" MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.  
**Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL):** recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.  
**Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.  
**Treatment Technique (TT):** a required process intended to reduce levels of a contaminant in drinking water.  
**Maximum**  
**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.  
**Non-Detects (ND):** lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.  
**Parts per Million (ppm)** or milligrams per liter (mg/l)  
**Parts per Billion (ppb)** or micrograms per liter (µg/l)  
**Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L):** a measure of the radioactivity in water.  
**Millirems per Year (mrem/yr):** measure of radiation absorbed by the body.  
**Monitoring Period Average (MPA):** An average of sample results obtained during a defined time frame, common examples of monitoring periods are monthly, quarterly and yearly.  
**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. Turbidity is not regulated for groundwater systems.  
**Running Annual Average (RAA):** an average of sample results obtained over the most current 12 months and used to determine compliance with MCLs.

## Bel Aire Seniors

*All SENIORS 55+ are cordially invited to all events listed below. The Senior Center and Library area is open from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. Monday through Friday excluding holidays. The library has a wide selection of library books to check out at no cost nor time restraints, along with computers available for study or research. Remember any senior can belong to or attend more than one senior center/club in Sedgwick County.*

#### Locations:

Senior Center/Community Room – 7651 E. Central Park Ave., 744-2451  
Recreation Center – 5251 E. 48th St. N., 744-2700

#### Weekly Events:

**Bel Aire Walkers** – M-F, 8-9 a.m. at the Rec Center (indoors & climate controlled)

Free for BA Senior members, alternate times available

**Men's Coffee & Fellowship** – Mondays, 10 a.m. at the Senior Center

**Yoga** – Mondays & Wednesdays, 6 p.m. at the Rec Center (monthly fee)

**Bridge Games** – Tuesdays, 1 p.m. at the Senior Center

**Low Impact Aerobics** – Wednesdays, 9 a.m. at the Rec Center

**Braum's Breakfast** – Fridays, 9:00 a.m. on North Rock Road

## Monthly & Special Events:

**July 1st, 6:30 p.m.** — Potluck Dinner – Denise Groene from the Better Business Bureau - Community Room

**July 2nd, 8:30 a.m.** – Breakfast at IHOP on N. Rock Road

**July 3rd, 10 a.m.** – Volunteer library work time at the Senior Center

**July 8th, 9:30 a.m.** – RS Advisory Meeting at the Rec Center

**July 8th, 11:30 a.m.** – Lunch at Famous Dave's BBQ – 9719 E. 21st

**July 9th, 9 a.m.** – CS Advisory Meeting at the Rec Center

**July 10th, 10 a.m.** – Open Sewing at the Senior Center

**July 12th, 1 p.m.** – “Organize Yourself”, Sandra Schepis from Organizing Solutions at the Senior Center

**July 16th, 6 p.m.** – Ladies Dine Out - for info call Anita at 744-2840

**July 17th, 9 a.m.** – Andover Life Care Center – Physical Activity presentation (Senior Aerobics) at the Rec Center

**July 17th, 10 a.m.** – Men's Coffee at Braum's on North Rock Road

**July 17th, 10:15 a.m.** – Senior Aerobics Brunch (different locations)

**July 17th, 2 p.m.** – Ladies Tea/Coffee at Braum's on North Rock Road

**July 22nd, 6 p.m.** – Covered Dish Dinner, program TBA

**July 23rd, 3 p.m.** – Trip to Farmer's Market at Green Acres Market in Bradley Fair, Carpool from Senior Center

**July 24th, 10 a.m.** – Open Sewing at the Senior Center

**July 24th, 7 p.m.** – Bunko games at the Senior Center

## Community Events

**TOPS** – Tuesdays, 9 a.m. at the Senior Center

**City Council Meetings** – 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of every month, 7 p.m.

**July 3rd – 7 p.m.** – Municipal Court

**July 5th – 12 p.m.** – Chamber of Commerce Meeting

**July 8th – 7 p.m.** – Central Park HOA

**July 13 – 11 a.m.** – Red Hat swimming party, call Anita for more info at 744-2840.

**July 16th – 4 p.m.** – UAC Meeting

**July 18th – 12:30 p.m.** – Municipal Court

**July 22nd – 7 p.m.** – Tree Board meeting

## Bel Aire Recreation

5251 E. 48th North • [www.belaireks.gov](http://www.belaireks.gov) • 744-2700

Mon., Tue., & Thur. 8-8 • Wed. & Fri. 8-7 • Sat. 9-3

For more information on these or any Bel Aire Recreation Programs call 744-2700.

#### DAZZLING DANCERS

These summer workshops, ages 4 & up, will focus on ballet and jazz dance. Class attire includes: comfortable clothing, dance slippers, and a hair-tie. The classes will be held on July 20, July 27, & August 3. Pre-registration is required.

#### MAXIMIZE BASKETBALL INSTRUCTION

Bel Aire Recreation has partnered with Brent Atwater, a former collegiate player and coach in offering group and individual basketball instruction. Coed Basketball Summer Camp (ages 6-11) is July 15-18; 9 am - 12 pm  
Call 807-1036 or 744-8841 for more information.

#### SUMMER DAY CAMP

The Wichita YMCA will again offer a state-licensed day camp this summer at the Bel Aire Recreation Center. Elementary age activities include arts & crafts, games, sports, swimming, field trips, and much more. For more information or to register call the YMCA at 264-1610.

**A \$5 late fee will be charged to all sign-ups after the deadline.**  
**For more information on these or any Bel Aire Recreation Programs call 744-2700**

### City-wide Cleanup Day

June 29th 8 am till noon

For unwanted items: 4103 N. Woodlawn (Bel Aire Maintenance Shop)  
For brush & lawn waste: North side of 53rd, halfway between Rock & Webb  
**ITEMS NOT ALLOWED:** tires, batteries, appliances, furniture, refrigerators or any items that contain refrigerant, liquids or oils of any kind, paints/aerosol cans, bulk quantities of construction waste, commercial waste, treated wood products.  
Bel Aire Residents ONLY.

### Storm Damage Repairs

Just a reminder that re-roofing and re-siding must be performed by a contractor who is licensed in the City of Bel Aire and a permit is required for all new and replacement activities.

### Community Blood Drive

August 19, 2013 3:30 to 6:45 P.M.

Bel Aire Recreation Center

5251 E. 48th North, Bel Aire, KS 67226

Call 744-2451 ext. 220 to schedule

Testing Results for: City of Bel Aire				
Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COLIFORM (TCR)	In the month of April, 2 sample(s) returned as positive	MCL: Systems that Collect Less Than 40 Samples per Month - No more than 1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Range (low/high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2010 - 2012	0.11	0.0015 - 0.26	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing
LEAD	2010 - 2012	2.2	1.4 - 7.1	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Your water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

During the 2012 calendar year, we had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations.

Compliance Period	Analyte	Type
04/01/2012 - 04/30/2012	COLIFORM (TCR)	MCL (TCR), MONTHLY

Some or all of our drinking water is supplied from another water system. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants, which were detected during the 2012 calendar year from the water systems that we purchase drinking water from.

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Water System	Your Highest Value	Range (Low/High)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Arsenic	5/4/2012	Chisholm Creek Util. Auth.	2.4	2.4	ppb	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	5/22/2012	Wichita	0.052	0.052	ppm	2	2	Discharge from metal refineries
Chromium	5/24/2012	Chisholm Creek Util. Auth.	3.3	3.3	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills
Fluoride	5/22/2012	Wichita	0.35	0.35	ppm	4	4	Natural deposits
Nitrate	5/4/2012	Chisholm Creek Util. Auth.	1.4	0.96-1.4	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use
Selenium	5/4/2012	Chisholm Creek Util. Auth.	7.9	7.9	ppb	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits

Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Water System	Your Highest Value	Range (Low/High)	Unit	SMCL
Alkalinity, Total	6/22/2012	Wichita	227	85.3-227	MG/L	300
Bromate	8/1/2012	Wichita	7.2	5.8-7.2	ppb	10
Calcium	5/4/2012	Chisholm Creek Utility Auth.	28	28	MG/L	200
Carbon, Total	4/13/2012	Wichita	6.18	1.56-6.18	ppm	N/A
Chloride	5/22/2012	Wichita	120	120	MG/L	250
Conductivity @25 C UMHOS/CM	5/22/2012	Wichita	750	750	UHMO/CM	1500
Corrosivity	4/9/2009	Chisholm Creek Utility Auth.	0.25	0.25	LANG	0
Hardness, Total (AS CAC03)	5/22/2012	Wichita	130	130	MG/L	400
Magnesium	5/22/2012	Wichita	15	15	MG/L	150
PH	5/4/2012	Chisholm Creek Utility Auth.	8.4	8.4	PH	8.5
Phosphorus, Total	5/22/2013	Wichita	0.095	0.095	MG/L	5
Potassium	5/22/2013	Wichita	4.6	4.6	MG/L	100
Silica	5/22/2012	Wichita	11	11	MG/L	50
Sodium	5/22/2012	Wichita	100	100	MG/L	100
Sulfate	5/4/2012	Chisholm Creek Utility Auth.	98	98	MG/L	250
TDS	5/22/2012	Wichita	410	410	MG/L	500
Zinc	5/22/2012	Wichita	0.0055	0.0055	MG/L	5

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

**Please Note: Because of sampling schedules, results may be older than 1 year.**



# HIGHLIGHTS



From left to right: Jacob Moore, Jake Broce, Emily Anderson and Chase Skelton.

Chase Skelton of Bel Aire was a member of a team of John Brown University strategic marketing students that won the 2013 MINI USA and Effie Collegiate Brand Challenge. After a pool of 300 student submissions

were reviewed, the JBU team was one of three to be invited to the MINI USA’s headquarters in New Jersey to present its marketing strategies to the MINI USA marketing team and executives.

The student team will be featured in the Effie Winners Journal for 2013 and acknowledged at the Effie Awards Gala. The students won \$2,000 for their award winning campaign, “MINI: What You’ve Been Looking For.”

The campaign was created by students Emily Anderson, senior; Jake Broce, junior; Chase Skelton, senior; and Jacob Moore, senior. The competition requires students to create a marketing strategy that focuses on increasing sales and overall brand awareness via social media platform engagement among the targeted market.

This was the first year that students from John Brown University competed in the Collegiate Effie awards.

The Effie Awards are among the most prestigious marketing awards for advertising companies. The awards were founded



Cynthia Matson (left) and Sarah Myose.

in 1968 by the American Marketing Association, New York Chapter, as an awards program to recognize the most effective advertising efforts in the United States each year. The Collegiate Effie Brand Challenge began in

2011 and offers undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to develop campaigns for national brands.

Melissa Davied of Bel Aire was named to the President’s List for the spring semester at Benedictine College.

To achieve the President’s List, students must carry a minimum of 12 credit hours and have a perfect 4.0 grade point average. Of the 1,716 undergraduate students on campus for the 2012-13 academic year, only 99 made the President’s List.

Kelsey Fleet of Bel Aire received a master of science degree in clinical psychology at Emporia State University. Nearly 300 students earned graduate degrees during commencement exercises May 18 at Emporia State University.

Anna Gonzalez of Bel Aire was named to the Dean’s List for the spring 2013 semester at Saint Mary’s College in Notre Dame, Ind.

To earn academic honors at Saint Mary’s, a student must achieve a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.6 on a 4.0 scale, have at least 12 graded credit hours, no incompletes, and no grades lower than a C.

Anna is the daughter of Jesus and Barbara Gonzalez of Bel Aire.

Sunrise Christian Academy students Cynthia Matson and Sarah Myose completed their first year of high school forensics competition by going 2-3 at the National Forensics Nationals May 25 and 26 in Philadelphia. The duo will be sophomores at Sunrise this fall.

# Bel Aire adds position to market city

By Matt Heilman

If future commitments follow through as expected and interested businesses pull the trigger on building in Bel Aire, the city northeast of Wichita will be in a position to grow like no other community in south central Kansas.

Steadily, Bel Aire is seeing dirt move and residential, commercial and industrial construction take place on much of its vacant land. To carry on the momentum the city has seen in the last couple of years, Bel Aire has added a full-time position responsible for working with developers and realtors to market what the city has to offer.

The man hired for the job is Rick Rekoske, a graduate of Wichita State University’s Hugo Wall School of Public



Rekoske

Affairs. Rekoske, who started with the city in late May, carries the official title of community development specialist.

Rekoske received his master’s degree in public administration from the Hugo Wall School in 2005 and started his public administration career working in economic development for the City of Lyons. Rekoske worked in Lyons from 2005 to 2007 before accepting a position with the City of Wichita in marketing Cowtown and Wichita Transit.

Rekoske said he was drawn to the community development specialist position in Bel Aire because its responsibilities are more in line with his graduate work at Wichita State.

Currently, Rekoske said he’s working to improve the city’s signage and clearly defining Bel Aire’s boundaries, developing a water conservation program, updating the city’s website, staying in contact with developers and realtors and reaching out to area organizations like the South Central Kansas Economic Development District that can help Bel Aire reach its long- and short-term goals.

“I thoroughly enjoy working with developers and people that are interested in Bel Aire, letting them know everything we have to offer them,” Rekoske said.

Bel Aire City Manager Ty Lasher said the city has recognized the need to have someone in house to help with marketing and economic development since he started working for the city six years ago. Until now, it didn’t make sense for the city to add a full-time position.

Since 2008, Bel Aire has cut about 35 percent of its workforce.

“We just never could justify the additional salary to bring the position on even though we needed it,” Lasher said.

Restructuring allowed the city to create room to pay for the new position. About two months ago, Bel Aire’s city clerk position became vacant.

Instead of hiring a new full-time clerk, Lasher said the city was able to spread the clerk’s responsibilities among

four employees, creating room for a community development specialist. While much of Rekoske’s responsibilities are geared toward economic development, Lasher said Rekoske would also be called on to lead efforts to improve the overall quality of living in Bel Aire.

Lasher said the city is also looking to hire a full-time city engineer that will also serve as the city’s public works director. He said the city would save money by consolidating two positions and reducing its contract service.

Currently, Bel Aire contracts engineering services with Schwab Eaton for \$35,000 per year for about 10 hours per week. Lasher said the city is advertising for a city engineer and hopes to fill the position by the first of August.

The community develop-

ment specialist and city engineer positions are important hires for a city on the brink of growth like it’s yet to experience, Lasher said.

Most recently on the development front, Bel Aire saw ground break on the Tierra Verde development just north of 45th North and Webb Road. The Concierge Surgical Recovery Center is expected to open on the property next spring. More groundbreakings are expected to occur in Bel Aire as plans for development become ready for construction.

For Rekoske, the primary goal is to pique people’s interest in Bel Aire, locally and beyond.

“There’s a lot going on,” he said. “We want to make a statement that we’re here. I’m really going to work hard to make sure that happens.”

# CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

## Christ Lutheran Church

The new summer service times are 9 and 10:30 a.m. with the Kid Friendly Service that used to be at 9:45 incorporated into both services. The new item is a 6 to 8 p.m. service that will incorporate vacation Bible school for the youth, and Bible study for the adults. This will begin with a free light supper at 6 p.m. and then split into various activities before wrapping up at or before 8 p.m. Each night is a stand-alone service.

As always, Communion will be served at all morning services.

A variety of weekly and monthly activities are offered including Falcon Fellowship (Free lunch for students at Heights High School on the second Wednesday of the month), youth groups, quilting, choirs and men’s breakfast.

Find the church online at [www.christ-lutheran.org](http://www.christ-lutheran.org); e-mail office@clc.kscoxmail.com. Pastor Chad’s email is pastor@clc.kscoxmail.com. Call the office at 744-1242.

The church is located at 5356 N. Hillside (at 53rd and North Hillside, across from Wichita Heights High School).

## Church of the Resurrection

Church of the Resurrection (Roman Catholic) is located at 4910 N. Woodlawn in Bel Aire. Masses for the Lord’s Day are 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday. Weekday Masses are 8 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; also at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Resurrection Catholic School has students from preschool through eighth grade.

The parish/school website is [www.resurrectionwichita.com](http://www.resurrectionwichita.com). Phone number is 744-2776. Rev. James F. Weldon is the pastor.

## Community Bible Chapel

The church is located at 4551 Auburn, south of 45th North between Oliver and Woodlawn, in Bel Aire.

Worship service and breaking of the bread are at 9 a.m., with Bible study and Sunday school at 10:30 on Sundays.

Wednesday prayer and Bible study are at 7 p.m.

For more information, call Melvan Adair at 744-7091.

## Fairmount United Church of Christ

The church welcomes a new minister, Rev. Larry Young.

Visit the newly renovated building at 1605 Fairmount in Wichita (one block south and one block east of Hillside and 17th North).

Sunday worship is at 10:30 a.m. which includes children’s church. Sunday school begins at 9:30.

For more information, call 682-1597 or visit at [www.fairmountucc.org](http://www.fairmountucc.org).

## Gospel Assembly Church

Located at 4230 N. Oliver in Bel Aire, service times are 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. Bible study is 7 p.m. Monday. Prayer service is 7 p.m. Tuesday. Praise and worship is 7 p.m. Wednesday. Phone number is 744-1502. Rev. Gary D. Green is the pastor.

## Greenwich United Methodist Church

Sunday worship service at 9 a.m. Fellowship and coffee follow the service.

Pastor Jeff Miller can be reached at 744-0203.

Senior Day first Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m.

United Methodist Women meet the first Thursday of each month at 1 p.m.

Movie night is the second Saturday of each month at 6:30 p.m. A snack is served.

The church is located about a mile south of K-254 on Greenwich Road. The phone number is 744-0203.

## Kechi United Methodist Church

Kechi United Methodist Church is located at 4533 E. 61st North in Kechi. Phone number is 744-1221.

Rev. Guy E. Rendoff is the pastor. Website is [www.kechiumc.org](http://www.kechiumc.org); E-mail is [kechiumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kechiumc@sbcglobal.net)

Worship services are Sundays at 9 and 11 a.m. with Sunday school at 10 a.m. Nursery is available.

## Pine Valley Christian Church

The church is located at 5620 E. 21st North. Sunday school is at 9 a.m. with worship at 10:15. For more information call 685-2421.

## Randall Road Baptist Church

Randall Road Baptist is located at 6556 N Randall, Park City.

Sunday School starts at 10 a.m. Worship is at 11 a.m.

Sunday evening activities start at 6 p.m.

Wednesday bible study begins at 7 p.m.

Contact Pastor Jim McQuery at 201-1696 or e-mail at [jmcquery@cox.net](mailto:jmcquery@cox.net)

## Risen Savior Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

Contemporary Sunday worship services at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Communion on the first and third Sunday. Adult Sunday school and Bible class meet at 9:15 a.m. Children’s church at 10:30. A nursery is provided during Bible class and second service.

Enrollment for Risen Savior Preschool for the 2013-14 school year has begun. Registrations

are now available for Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 9 to 11:45 a.m. Preschool class for 3- to 5-year-olds. Please call the church office for details.

The church is located at 6770 E. 34th North in Wichita. The phone number is 683-5538. [www.risensavior.net](http://www.risensavior.net).

Senior pastor is Tom Harmon.

## St. Michael’s Orthodox Christian Church

The church is located at 2710 E 61st Street in Park City. It is a congregation of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.

“The Story of Christianity,” an adult class is offered at 9 a.m. on Sunday. Service of Matins is at 9:45 a.m. followed by the Divine Liturgy (Mass) at 10 a.m.

Wednesday night service is at 6 p.m. First and third Wednesday liturgy is followed by a potluck and program.

Saturday Vespers start at 5:30 p.m.

Men’s Study Group is the first and third Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

Women’s Study Group meets

every second and fourth Friday of each month at 10 a.m.

Vacation Bible School will be July 22-26 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The theme is “God’s Family” and will explore familiar Bible stories which help us understand the blessings of life as a member of God’s family. The program will include worship, crafts, music, outdoor activities, story time and snacks. VBS is offered for kindergarten through 6th grade. A nursery will be provided for younger children. On July 26 at 7 p.m., the last night of VBS will end with an ice cream social.

Call the church for more information at 734-6248 or visit [www.stmichaeloc.org](http://www.stmichaeloc.org)

Fr. John Flora, Pastor can

be reached at 734-6248 or [jflora@cox.net](mailto:jflora@cox.net).

## University United Methodist Church

The church is located across from the Wichita State University campus at 21st and Yale.

Sunday activities include adult and youth educational classes at 9:15 a.m., traditional service at 10:30 and youth group activities from 4 to 6 p.m.

E-mail [uumc2220@uumc.net](mailto:uumc2220@uumc.net); phone 686-6765. Rev. Charles Claycomb is the pastor.

Send your church’s upcoming events and service times to [legals@arkvalleynews.com](mailto:legals@arkvalleynews.com) or call 755-0821.

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## Firearms

Continued from Page 1

The exception includes public school buildings, where only district employees designated by the school board can carry concealed weapons. At least that's how leaders in the Valley Center school district are interpreting the language in the law.

As of June 14, Valley Center school district Assistant Superintendent Mike Bonner said the administration and school board hadn't had any official talks about the new legislation, but the leadership seems to be on the same page in regards to Valley Center.

"Preliminarily, no one on the school board or in the administration is in favor of allowing anyone to carry a concealed weapon in the schools," he said.

In recent months, the district has worked to increase security at the entrances of its schools by incorporating a buzz-in system that prevents a visitor from walking into a school without first being cleared by office staff.

The law is an issue for local cities that don't have much money to spend on security equipment or large enough police forces to justify around-the-clock security at City Hall and other city buildings. The Valley Center, Park City and Bel Aire city councils have indicated the real concern is in municipal court, where emotions can run high during hearings and law enforcement is already present.

In a memo to Valley Center Mayor Mike McNown and the city council, Valley Center Administrator Joel Pile cited three options cities have in response to the provision of the Personal and Family Protection Act related to city buildings:

1. Cities can remove the no-carry signs with the red line over the picture of a gun and allow concealed weapons in municipal buildings.
2. Cities can provide metal detectors or wands and person-

nel at each public entrance and keep posting the no-carry signs.

3. Cities can assess each city building and establish a security plan for the buildings.

"In this case, the buildings will be eligible for a four-year exemption law," Pile said in his memo.

He said Wichita and Sedgwick County recently completed the assessment of their municipal buildings. At its June 11 meeting, the Park City Council approved sending a letter to Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt seeking a six-month exemption from the new conceal carry provision. The Bel Aire and Valley Center councils took the same measure this week. The exemption would delay the law from going into effect in the cities until Jan. 1, 2014.

Park City Administrator Jack Whitson explained the exemption allows city leaders and police forces to explore how they can cost-effectively improve security measures to keep concealed weapons out of courtrooms. Whitson said the law would allow state agencies to continue banning weapons through 2017, but requires them to declare publicly they have developed plans that provide adequate security for their buildings.

"I feel like this gives us some breathing room to look at it," he said.

Bel Aire Police Chief John Daily said he was hoping to provide walk-through metal detectors for municipal court. He said the detectors could be obtained at a relatively low cost, but would require more officers to be present at municipal court proceedings that are held twice per month.

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If metal detectors are installed, Daily said reserve officers could man them.

The City of Kechi, which has a population of less than 2,000 people and the smallest police department in north Sedgwick County, has decided not to seek the six-month exemption from the conceal carry law.

Kechi administrator Bob Conger explained that the city could review its security measures, but it ultimately isn't cost-effective to seek the six-month exemption from the law.

"In order to meet exemption status and provide (increased) security measures, it would be cost prohibitive by the city," Conger said.

At its June 13 meeting, the Kechi City Council did support a weapons policy relating to city employees. A draft of the policy seeks to ban city employees from carrying concealed weapons while on the job.

The policy excludes law enforcement personnel who are required to carry weapons.

Conger said the purpose of

the policy is to keep weapons from becoming a distraction and taking away from city business.

For example, he said time would be taken away from work if a city employee outside the police department is carrying a concealed firearm and doesn't have a place to safely secure the weapon before conducting business at a public building in another city where more security is in place and concealed weapons aren't allowed.

"I personally don't have an issue with conceal carry," Conger said. "What I do have an issue with is workplace disruption."

While confident that most people who go through the process to obtain a conceal carry license are responsible gun owners, Whitson cited a February 2008 incident at a city council meeting in Kirkwood, Mo. as an example for why security measures need to be taken seriously.

In February 2008, a man opened fire at a council meeting in the St. Louis suburb, kill-

ing five council members and critically wounding the mayor. In response to the attack, the City of Park City had plate steel installed behind the city council and mayor's bench as a bullet-proof shield.

Whitson said the city doesn't have an issue with the Personal and Family Protection Act. The rub, he says is that cities weren't given enough notice to review the law before it goes into effect. He said he didn't hear about how the law would pertain to cities until he re-

ceived an e-mail message from the Kansas League of Municipalities about a week before the council's June 11 meeting.

"They did it on such a short timeframe, they're hoping cities won't catch it," Whitson said.

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# Bel Aire Breeze



# Alternative energy developer pitches debt-solution plan to Bel Aire

By Matt Heilman

An idea that could put Bel Aire's financial troubles in the rear-view mirror was pitched to the city council in June. Before the council moves forward with any formal action, it has a lot to consider, but the group seemed intrigued by what it heard at a June 18 workshop.

Representatives of Transcorp pitched an idea to the council to bring in an alternative energy power plant and a water treatment plant to

about 260 acres in the city. The alternative energy would come from bio fuels in the form of solid waste or agricultural products. The proposed power plant on about 60 acres would provide enough energy to power future development on the city's current undeveloped 1,600 acres. Bel Aire City Manager Ty Lasher said Transcorp's plans call for purchasing all of the city's vacant land. If all the land was sold, the city could save about \$1.8 million per year in debt service payments, Lasher said.

Transcorp representatives said they would refund Bel Aire for an upfront \$150,000 charge that would be needed if the city was to approve the company's plans.

If Transcorp brings alternative energy and water treatment plants to Bel Aire, the city's future developments could be taken off the electrical grid. Lasher said Transcorp would be able sell some of its power to Westar Energy, potentially providing a further financial benefit to the city.

Besides providing energy

for Bel Aire's future developments, Lasher said Transcorp has plans to develop the city's vacant property, building off of plans established with Caban Marketplace, the name given to the city's future downtown development. Caban Marketplace, proposed to encompass 580 acres along Rock Road from K-254 to 53rd North, is planned to serve as a retail and entertainment destination with a water park and resort, including a large sports complex.

Lasher said Transcorp would fund infrastructure

improvements for its operation and future development with revenue it would receive through energy generation.

Lasher said if Transcorp was to construct a plant that would provide power with bio fuels the operation would utilize technology that would keep the energy-generation process clean without a lingering odor.

Bel Aire Mayor David Austin said the council needs to consider how much undeveloped land it has and the citizens the city leaders represent.

More information on Transcorp will be provided in future discussions, Lasher said. While there's a lot to consider and input is needed from other entities, the council at least expressed an interest in building off its initial discussion with Transcorp.

"My opinion is as a council, we need to look very seriously at this," Austin said.

Following the presentation from Transcorp, the council concluded its special meeting with a 30-minute executive session to discuss matters relating to attorney-client privilege. No binding action was taken in the closed session.

# Bel Aire establishes community development committee

By Matt Heilman

Growth is on the horizon in Bel Aire. And while economic development is key, city leaders say it takes more than business expansion to attract new residents and keep residents who already call the community home content.

At its June 18 meeting the Bel Aire City Council approved the formation of a Community Development Committee and Mayor David Austin's recommended list of residents to join the six-member group.

The new committee

members include Andrew Uhlschmidt, Shelly Smith, Diane Wynn, Eliot Green, Nancy Larson and Katie Wyatt. Uhlschmidt is a social worker in Wichita. Smith owns a court-reporting business in Wichita. Green is the owner of Bel Aire's pizza restaurant, Bob and Luigi's. Wynn is the president and owner of Wichita's Acumen Business Connections. Larson serves as the Pollution Prevention Institute director for Kansas State University's Sedgwick County Extension Office. Wyatt is a real estate agent for New Century Homes LLC. She is the real-

tor for several homes in Bel Aire's Central Park community. Austin said he likes the diversity in the group and the expertise that each member can bring toward marketing Bel Aire and developing plans to improve the quality of life in the city. He said it remains to be seen what the group comes up with to make

an impact in Bel Aire.

Among the options he mentioned was the development or resurrection of community events, possibly including an annual festival.

"We've got all this land and we've got a great community," Austin said. "Let's use it and highlight it and get

people to come to Bel Aire."

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